



Sunday, March 22, 1992

No. 289

BALLINEASPAIG BULLETIN

Third Sunday of Lent.



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-100



Where Did Lent Come From?

LENT - THE CHURCH'S FORTY DAYS

Our English word "Lent" comes from an Anglo-saxon word meaning "spring". We are obviously meant to capture some kind of springtime in our spiritual lives.

Just as spring is a preparation for summer, so lent is our necessary preparation for our great feast of Easter. In one of his poems G.M. Hopkins has the lovely prayer that Christ would "easter" in us. Too ofte the Christ within us lies buried as in the tomb; we need to re-live the experience of the Apostles on that first Easter - to let the risen Christ truly change our lives and hearts.

WHY FORTY DAYS?

Lent extends over a period of forty days. This has a special significance of its own. In the Bible the number "40" is so often associated with a period of preparation for a moment when God will erupt into the life of a nation or individual.

The people of Israel wander in the desert for forty years to prepare them for entry into the Promised Land.

Moses waits on Mt. Sinai for forty days to prepare to meet the Lord and receive his commandments.

For forty days Elias wanders in the desert, praying and fasting, until he meets his God on Mt. Horeb.

Jesus, too, will stay in the desert for forty days, and withstand the temptations of the devil, before he is ready to preach the Gospel of the coming of God's Kingdom. If Easter is to be a time of grace for us, we must prepare for it well; if Christ is to "easter" in us, so we must be ready for his coming.

BLESSING OF THE SHAMROCK

Many people have said, "Wasn't it a lovely ceremony?". And so it was. The idea of blessing shamrock and presenting it to a few representative members of the parish at each Mass on St. Patrick's Day came from the Liturgy Group last Summer. The only problem was - where was the shamrock to come from? No problem, however, to Brendan Linehan. "I'll grow it for you", he said, and that's exactly what he did, in quantity!

So, congratulations to the Liturgy Group for organising this - and to Brendan who made it possible.



CORK ADULT EDUCATION COUNCIL LUNCH-TIME LECTURE SERIES

MONDAY 23RD MARCH - FRIDAY 27TH MARCH 1992
1.10pm to 2.00 pm Daily.

MONDAY	23rd. MS. MAIRIN QUILL, T.D. "Women in Politics"
TUESDAY	24th. MR. BILLY HOULIHAN Senior Executive Architect, Cork Co. Council "Planning: the West Cork Experience"
WEDNESDAY	25th. MS PAT EGAN Cork City Library "Books: a Life Insurance Policy for your Children"
THURSDAY	26th. MR. BRENDAN ROCHE, P.C. Credit Controller, Lough Credit Union "Credit Unions and the Local Environment"
FRIDAY	27th. MR. GENE FITZGERALD, M.P. "Maastricht: the Implications for Ireland"
VENUE:	Crawford Art Gallery, Emmet Place, Cork.

Everybody Welcome.

Admission FREE.



FORMER MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Reminder

A Mass for ex-Ministers of the Eucharist has been arranged for Tuesday, 24th March, at 8.00 p.m. in the Crypt. All ex-Ministers are invited to share in this Mass.

The Fold

Congratulations and best wishes to Ann Cleary (Teacher) of Colaiste an Spioraid Naomh on her recent appointment to the editorial team of The Fold. Also, to Sean Cadogan for his poem, and Desmond Ryan and Colman Twomey for their articles in the March issue. All are pupils of Colaiste an Spioraid Naomh.



Visit the sick

If parishioners are ill in hospital and would like a visit from one of the priests of the parish, please get in touch.

SIMON

A voluntary collection will be held on Model Farm Road on Monday night, 23rd March. Non-perishable food items, particularly tea and sugar, are requested. As well as food, detergents, disinfectants, etc., would also be of great benefit. All collectors have official ID cards/armbands.

Your support would be greatly appreciated.



Lent Is for Children



Something to Do — A Treasure Hunt



You'll need a Bible for this treasure hunt which will help you discover exactly where to find specific people and stories in the Bible.

If you don't know how to find Bible verses ask someone to show you. (It's no harder than looking up a word in the dictionary or a name in the phone book.)

Look up the following stories in the Bible. On the line beside the Bible verse write down what happened in the story you found. The first one is done for you.

If you want to have a race, see how many you can find in five minutes, or have someone join you to see who can finish first.

1. 1 Samuel 3:1-18 God speaks to Samuel. _____
2. Numbers 21:4-9 _____
3. 1 Kings 8:22-26 _____
4. Tobit 3:2-6 _____
5. Jeremiah 1:4-10 _____
6. Matthew 6:5-15 _____
7. Mark 14:32-42 _____
8. Luke 18:9-14 _____
9. John 17:1-5 _____
10. James 5:13-18 _____

Once you've found all the stories, think about what God has told you in these stories. See how they show that prayer is always important.



Central America Week - 1992
Mon. 23 Mar: Ecumenical Service to reflect on 500 years of christianity in Latin America. Venue - St. Francis Church at 7.30 p.m.

Thurs. 26 Mar: Celebration of Latin American Music and Poetry. Venue - The Other Place (side street beside Queen's Old Castle) at 8 p.m. Admission free. Food and wine available.

Fri. 27 Mar: Public Meeting "Latin America today - 500 years later" Speaker -Duncan Green (Author & Journalist) Venue - The Imperial Hotel, at 8 p.m. Admission free. For further information please contact Comhalmh, 55 Grand Parade, tel. 275881.

LENTEN SEASON

Sunday Evening Prayer and Benediction at 5.30 p.m.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

REGISTRATION WEEK

MARCH 23rd - 27th

SPIORAID NAOIMH

BOYS & GIRLS
PH. 543333 PH. 543305

SCOIL THERESE PH. 544098

SCOIL CHOLUMBAIN PH. 544068

PAID FOR BY THE SOCIETY OF SAINTS AND SISTERS

CUIRFEAR FAILTE ROMHAT

St. Catherine's School Enrolment
Any child who has not yet been enrolled for the coming year, should do so between March 25th and April 3rd.

FORTHCOMING PARISH EVENTS

- * Parish Social -
Thursday, 7th May
- * First Communion -
Saturday, 23rd May
- * Parish Novena -
2nd - 10th June



Tomorrow, Monday 23rd, Bishop John Buckley will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation in our parish church at 10.30 a.m. Ninety-two children from St. Catherine's School are being Confirmed this year. All are welcome to join in the event.

Please note that there will be no 10.00 a.m. Mass.

Summer Courses

Mt. Oliver Institute, Dundalk, are running six summer courses, each of 4-5 days duration. Subjects such as, the Liturgy of Holy Week, Christian Traditions, etc. are covered. They commence on April 12 and continue into July. Information is available at the C.P. Centre.

**PRIESTS' EMERGENCY
NUMBER: 274888**